ReportMiner Tutorial

ReportMiner

Table of Contents

Overview 3
Creating a Report Model 3
- Extracting Header Data 5
- Adding Fields 7
- Renaming Fields 8
- Creating a Data Region 8
- Creating a Collection Region 9
- Saving and Testing a Report Model 11

Data Statistics and Summary 11
Exporting Data 12
- Selecting Fields and Regions 13
- Managing Field and Region Properties 13
- Renaming Fields and Regions 14
- Deleting Fields and Regions 14
- Customizing Fields 14
- Identifying Text Patterns for Regions 15

Using Dataflows 15
- Creating Dataflows from Export Settings 17

Overview

In this tutorial, we will explore the features of ReportMiner. ReportMiner's new and improved interface enables business users with little or no technical background to easily accomplish a wide range of data extraction tasks without employing expensive IT resources.

To extract data from a printed document, called data mining or report mining, you first need to create a report model that contains the definition of the report's structure and then export it to your destination of choice. You can also use your report as a source object in a dataflow, where you can take advantage of the advanced transformations and conversion features of ReportMiner. Let's demonstrate how this can be accomplished.

Creating a Report Model

A report model normally has a data region and fields belonging to this region. Depending on the structure of the data, you can create a separate Header and Footer, and append regions with their own fields. ReportMiner supports true hierarchical data extraction such that a data region can have child data regions and the child regions can have their own children and so on.

To create a new report layout, go to *File* -> *New* and select *Report Model* (Figure 1).

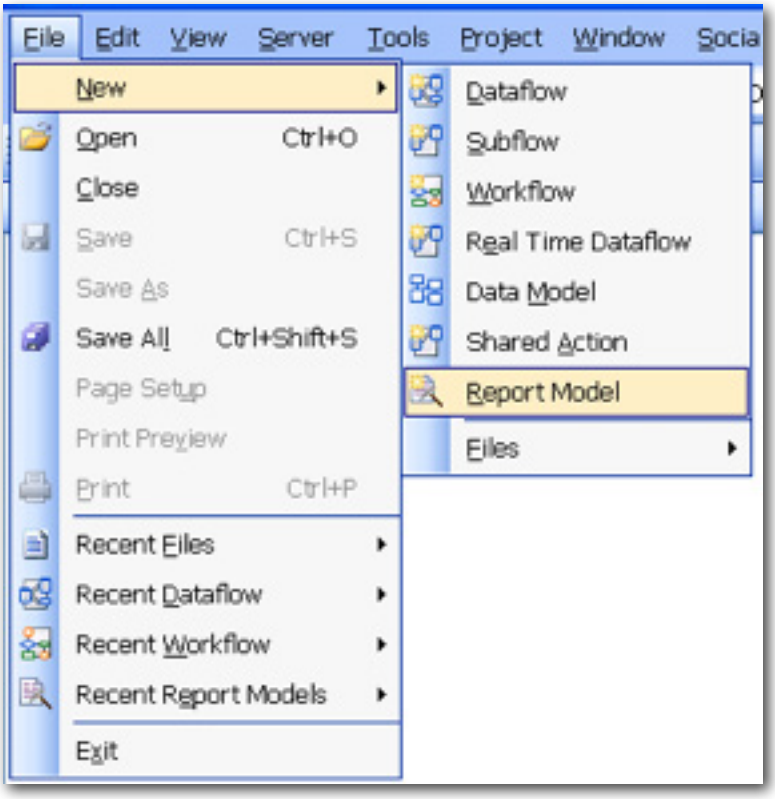


Figure 1

Key Features

- Extract information from documents in popular formats such as PDF, PRN, TXT, XLS, XLSX Map and export data to a plethora of destinations, including databases like SQL Server, Access, MySQL, PostgreSQL, and any ODBC-compatible database, as well as formats such as fixed length, delimited, Excel, and XML
- The single-click preview capability shows extracted data and any conversion or validation errors, enabling users to verify and test report models as they are being built
- Save time by reusing report models for subsequent conversions
- The Astera high-performance parallel-processing engine processes large data volumes quickly and efficiently
- Map extracted data to a dataflow and take advantage of advanced transformations and conversion features for a number of data integration and management processes

ReportMiner supports extracting unstructured data from text, EDI, Excel, PRN, and PDF files. All file types fall under the content type *Report* except for Excel, which has its own content type (Figure 2).

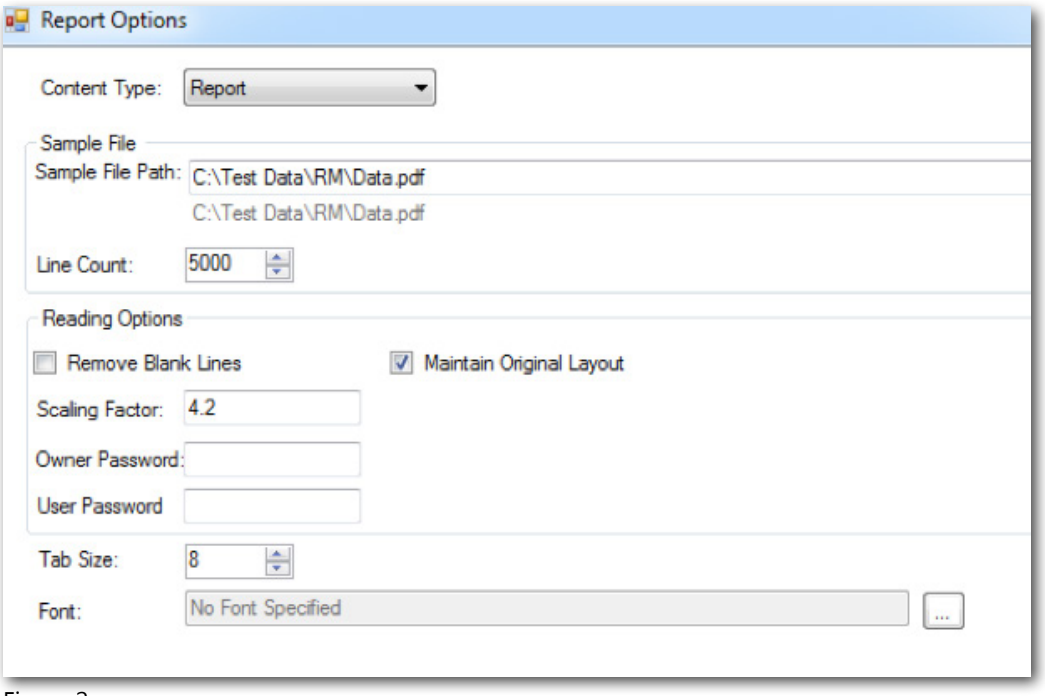


Figure 2

Select the data file to be used as a sample file. We will use data from this file to create our report model. Depending on the content type of your data, reading options will change. For example, if you have a PDF file, you can select the scaling factor, font, tab size, and passwords.

We selected a sample data file for Orders as shown in the screenshot below. The selected file is loaded into the Report Definition Editor (Figure 3).

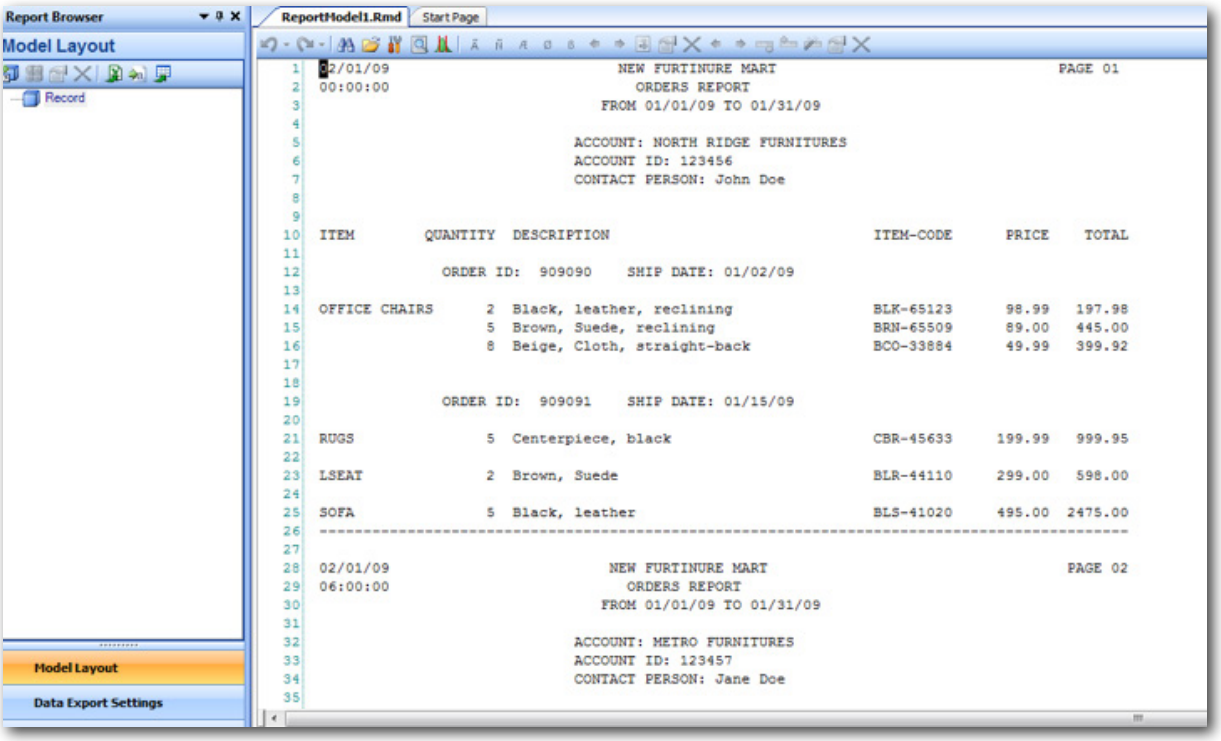

Report Browser
Model Layout
Record
Model Layout
Data Export Settings
ReportModel1.Rmd
Start Page
2/01/09 NEW FURTINURE MART PAGE 01
00:00:00 ORDERS REPORT
FROM 01/01/09 TO 01/31/09
ACCOUNT: NORTH RIDGE FURNITURES
ACCOUNT ID: 123456
CONTACT PERSON: John Doe
ITEM QUANTITY DESCRIPTION ITEM-CODE PRICE TOTAL
ORDER ID: 909090 SHIP DATE: 01/02/09
OFFICE CHAIRS 2 Black, leather, reclining BLK-65123 98.99 197.98
5 Brown, Suede, reclining BRN-65509 89.00 445.00
8 Beige, Cloth, straight-back BCO-33884 49.99 399.92
ORDER ID: 909091 SHIP DATE: 01/15/09
RUGS 5 Centerpiece, black CBR-45633 199.99 999.95
LSEAT 2 Brown, Suede BLR-44110 299.00 598.00
SOFA 5 Black, leather BLS-41020 495.00 2475.00
02/01/09 NEW FURTINURE MART PAGE 02
06:00:00 ORDERS REPORT
FROM 01/01/09 TO 01/31/09
ACCOUNT: METRO FURNITURES
ACCOUNT ID: 123457
CONTACT PERSON: Jane Doe

Figure 3

Note: You can also load a different data file in the report definition editor at a later time.

Click the icon on the toolbar and navigate to the file you want to load.

Let's take a look at this report. At the top of our sample is general order information, such as Company Name, Order Date and Time, Customer Name, Account Number, and others. Following it is the detailed order information, such as the order items making up the order.

If you are interested in extracting header data, please read through the next section, Extracting Header Data. Otherwise, to learn only about extracting order records, you can jump to the Adding Fields section.

Extracting Header Data

Our sample report has two logical regions, the Header region and the Data region. Unlike some other common reports, this report has no Footer region.

The Header is at the very top of the report, spanning three lines starting at the line with the order date (Figure 4).

```
1  02/01/09                          NEW FURTINURE MART
2  00:00:00                            ORDERS REPORT
3                                    FROM 01/01/09 TO 01/31/09
```

Figure 4

So the first step in creating our report model will be to define the Header for our report.

In the Report Definition Editor, select the top three lines. This is the area that covers the Header. Right click on your selection and using the context menu select one of the following options, shown in the context menu in Figure 5.

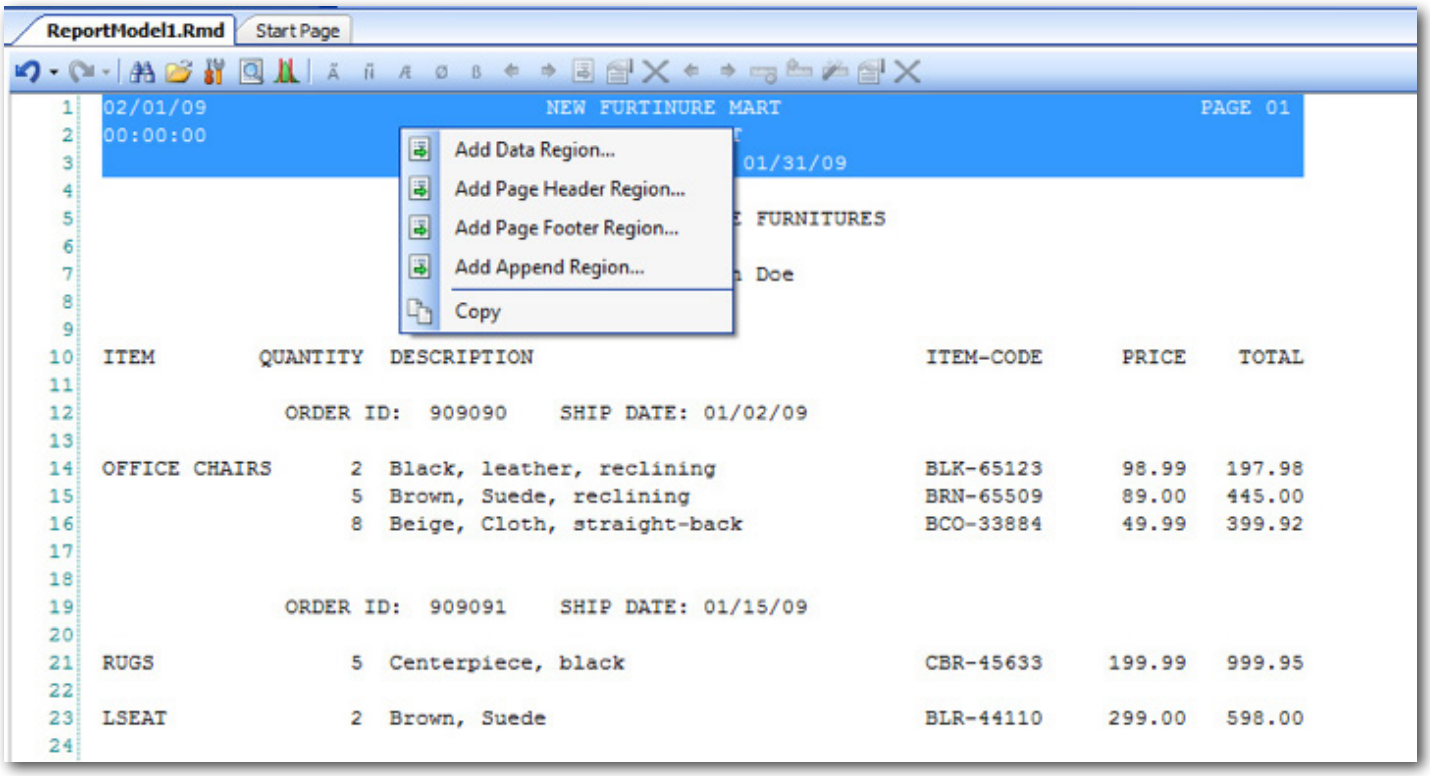
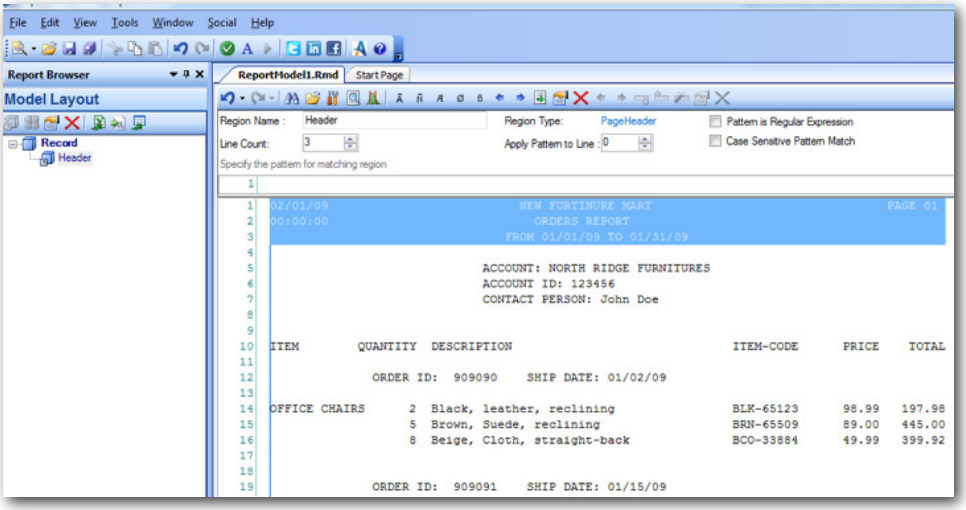

ReportModel1.Rmd
Start Page
02/01/09 NEW FURTINURE MART PAGE 01
00:00:00
01/31/09
FURNITURES
Doe
Add Data Region...
Add Page Header Region...
Add Page Footer Region...
Add Append Region...
Copy
ITEM QUANTITY DESCRIPTION ITEM-CODE PRICE TOTAL
ORDER ID: 909090 SHIP DATE: 01/02/09
OFFICE CHAIRS 2 Black, leather, reclining BLK-65123 98.99 197.98
5 Brown, Suede, reclining BRN-65509 89.00 445.00
8 Beige, Cloth, straight-back BCO-33884 49.99 399.92
ORDER ID: 909091 SHIP DATE: 01/15/09
RUGS 5 Centerpiece, black CBR-45633 199.99 999.95
LSEAT 2 Brown, Suede BLR-44110 299.00 598.00

Figure 5

Since we are creating the Header, select *Add Page Header Region*.

The Report Browser on the left hand side now shows a new node called Header (Figure 6).


File Edit View Tools Window Social Help
Report Browser
Model Layout
Record
Header
ReportModel1.Rmd
Start Page
Region Name : Header
Region Type: PageHeader
Pattern is Regular Expression
Line Count: 3
Apply Pattern to Line : 0
Case Sensitive Pattern Match
Specify the pattern for matching region
02/01/09 NEW FURTINURE MART PAGE 01
00:00:00 ORDERS REPORT
FROM 01/01/09 TO 01/31/09
ACCOUNT: NORTH RIDGE FURNITURES
ACCOUNT ID: 123456
CONTACT PERSON: John Doe
ITEM QUANTITY DESCRIPTION ITEM-CODE PRICE TOTAL
ORDER ID: 909090 SHIP DATE: 01/02/09
OFFICE CHAIRS 2 Black, leather, reclining BLK-65123 98.99 197.98
5 Brown, Suede, reclining BRN-65509 89.00 445.00
8 Beige, Cloth, straight-back BCO-33884 49.99 399.92
ORDER ID: 909091 SHIP DATE: 01/15/09
Figure 6

Now, let's take a closer look at the Header. The Header in our sample always starts with a date, shown at the very first line and in the very first character position of the Header. We can use the date as an identifying pattern for the header.

Any time the pattern occurs in the file, ReportMiner will treat it as the beginning of the Header.

Let's enter the wildcard characters denoting digits, as shown in Figure 7.

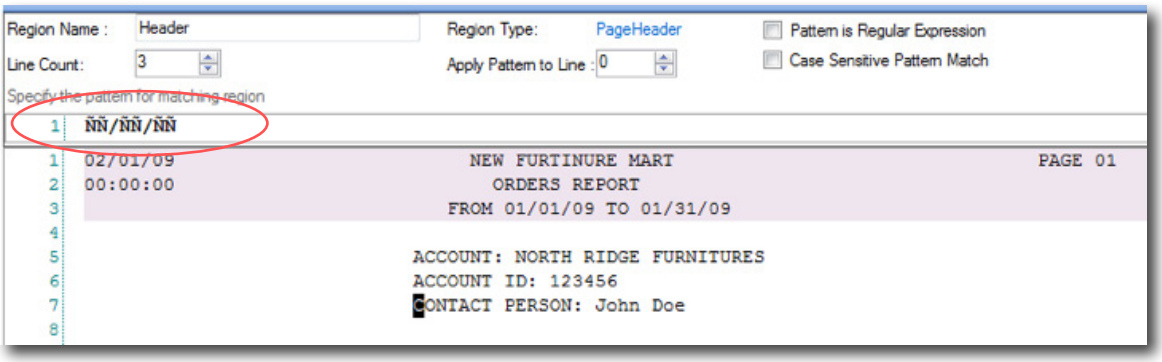


Figure 7

Any time this pattern occurs inside the file, ReportMiner will treat it as the starting point of the Header.

Notice that the Report Definition Editor now highlights the header in purple. The Header spans three lines, as shown by the purple block in the editor. The height of the Header or any other region (i.e., the number of lines that the header spans) is controlled by the Line Count input below the Report Toolbar.

The next step is to create the fields making up the Header.

Adding Fields

There are two ways to create fields.

1. Highlight a field, right click and select Add Field (Figure 8).

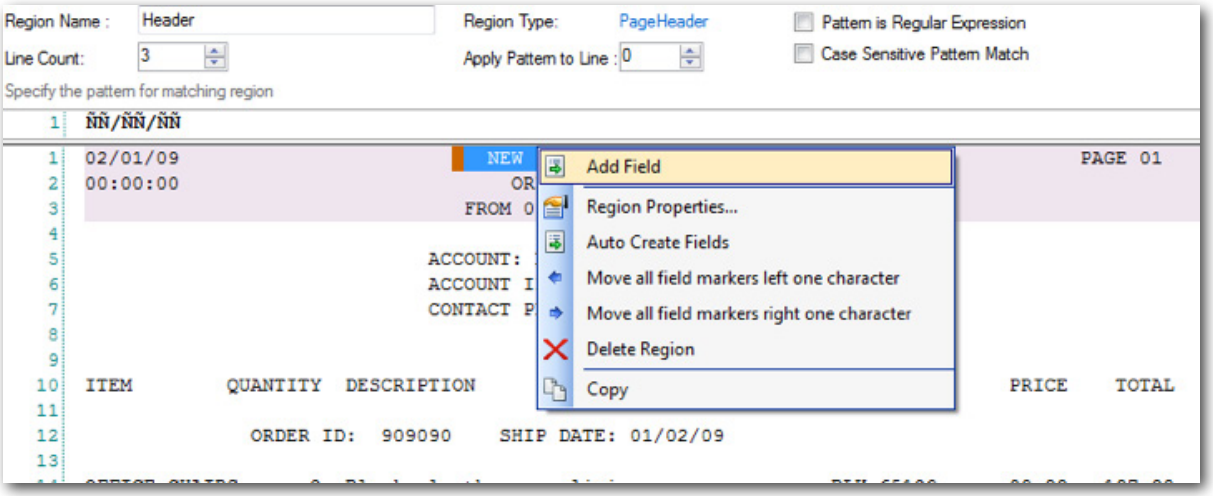


Figure 8

2. Right click within the header area, and select *Auto Create Fields*.

ReportMiner will scan the sample data and identify any changing values within any occurrences of the header. These changing values will be marked as fields.

In our example, the Auto Create Fields feature added five fields. They are now displayed in the Report Browser under the header node. Notice that our new fields are also highlighted in darker purple in the Report Definition Editor (Figure 9).

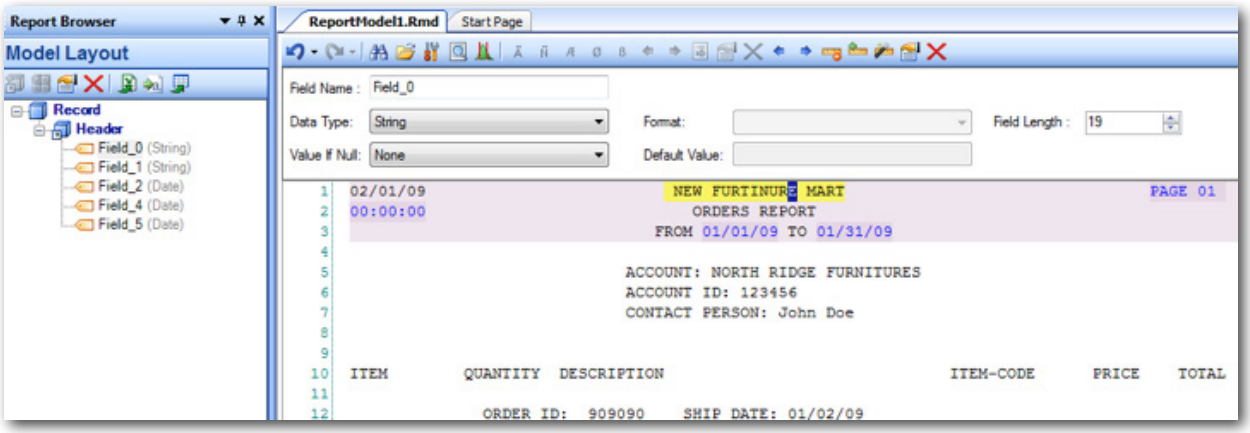


Figure 9

The fields created this way are assigned unique names, such as Field_0, Field_1, and so on.

Renaming Fields

You can rename a field if needed. Let's rename our newly created fields to make them more descriptive. We can use any of the three methods described below.

1. A field in the Report Browser, double click and enter the new name

2. Select a field in the Report Browser, right click it and select *Rename*

3. Select a field in the Report Definition Editor (the selected field is highlighted in yellow), right click, and select *Rename* from the context menu. The selected field is always highlighted in yellow in the Report Definition Editor.

We can also change the field's data type, if needed. In our example, ReportMiner correctly assigned field data types from our sample report (Figure 10).

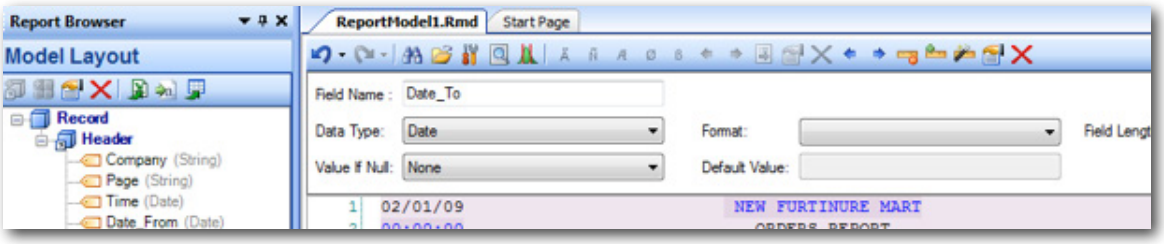


Figure 10

Creating a Data Region

Now that we created the definition of the Header, let's look into the main region of the report. As we saw earlier, the main region starts with the Customer Name and then includes Account Number, Contact Name, and, finally, specific order details. Let's assume that we are interested in extracting only the order details and order items for the respective orders.

Let's select the order lines, then right click it and select the *Add Data* region from the context menu (Figure 11).

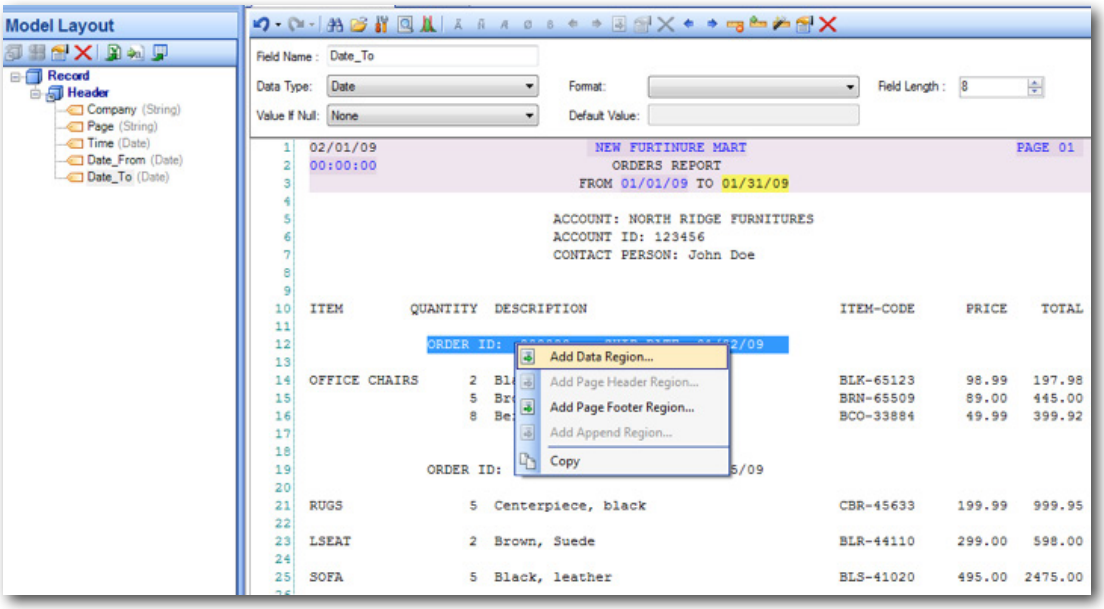


Figure 11

This will add a new Data node in the Report Browser. This new node has no fields at this point (Figure 12).

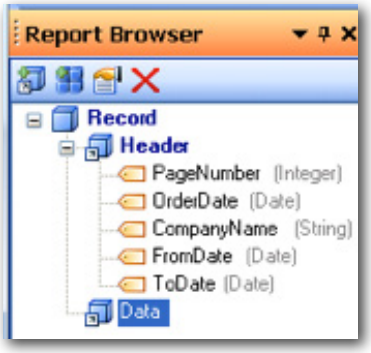


Figure 12

Now we will identify the using appropriate masks. In this case, it's easy to identify orders as they always start with ORDER ID: at the same position. Place the cursor at the position where the text ORDER ID begins, as shown in the screenshot, and enter ORDER in the pattern text input (Figure 13).

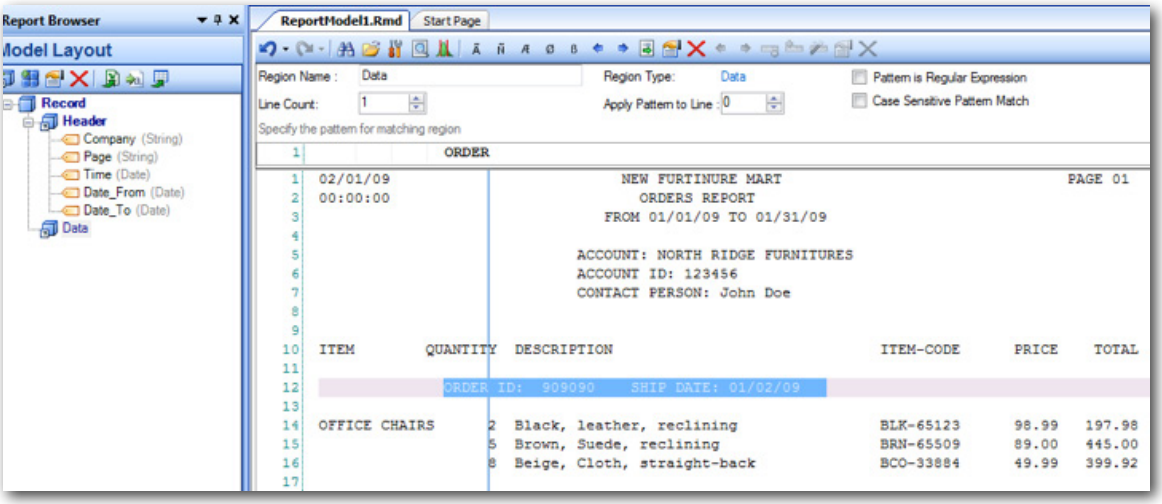


Figure 13

The Report Definition Editor highlights any occurrences of the Data region in report. Remember that we can easily adjust the height of the region by using the Line Count input.

Let's rename our region Order. Now our report has two regions: Header and Order.

Now, let's identify the fields making up the Order region. The Order region has two fields – Order ID and Ship Date. Let's add these fields to the region. If needed, scroll back to the Adding Fields section where we talked about adding fields in the context of a Header region.

Creating a Collection Region

Next, let's take a closer look at the Order region. Notice that each customer can have one or more orders, and each order may have several order items in it. In ReportMiner terms, we say that the region has a collection of items, or to put it simply, a Collection.

Let's add order items to the Order. After selecting the Orders node in the model, we select a row underneath the order that represents an order item and then right click it and select *Add Data Region* from the context menu.

We can identify this region by the repeating pattern of item code. We are going to use a data mask in the text pattern input to match with the item code. To that end, enter *Match Any Alphabet* three times, followed by a hyphen, and then Match Any Digit five times as shown in Figure 14.

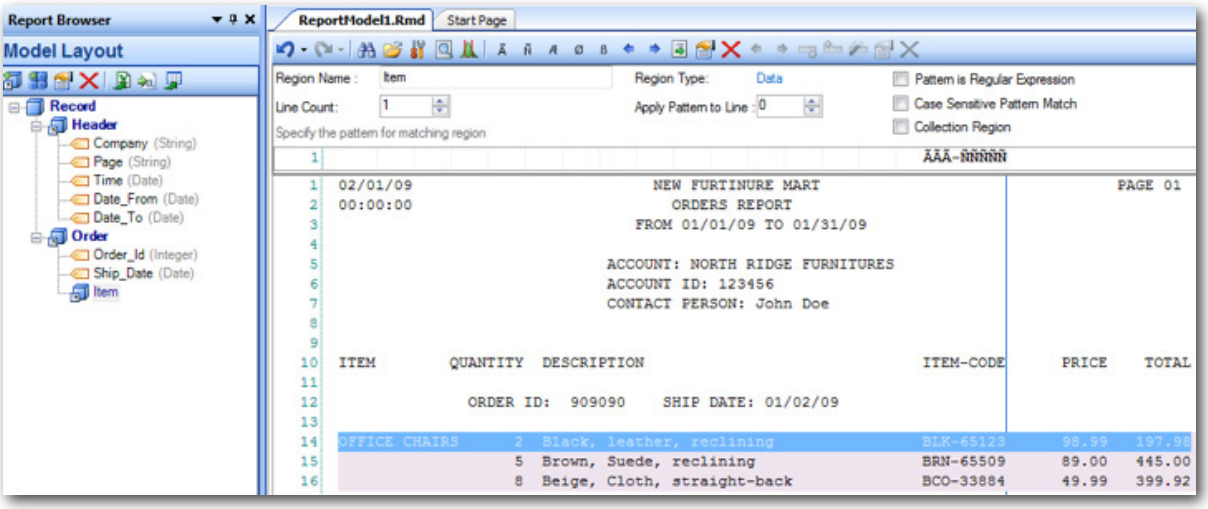


Figure 14

Whenever a node has a collection of items, we need to turn on its Is Collection property as shown in Figure 15. Notice that the appearance of the icon for the Item node in the Report Browser changes to help identify this node as a collection. When we add a Collection Data Region via the context menu, the Is Collection property is enabled automatically.

Right click anywhere within our region, and select *Auto Create Fields*. This creates the Order Number field and the Ship Date field, named Field_0 and Field_1 respectively. Let's give these fields more user-friendly names. After assigning proper names, the model is completed and looks as shown in Figure 15.

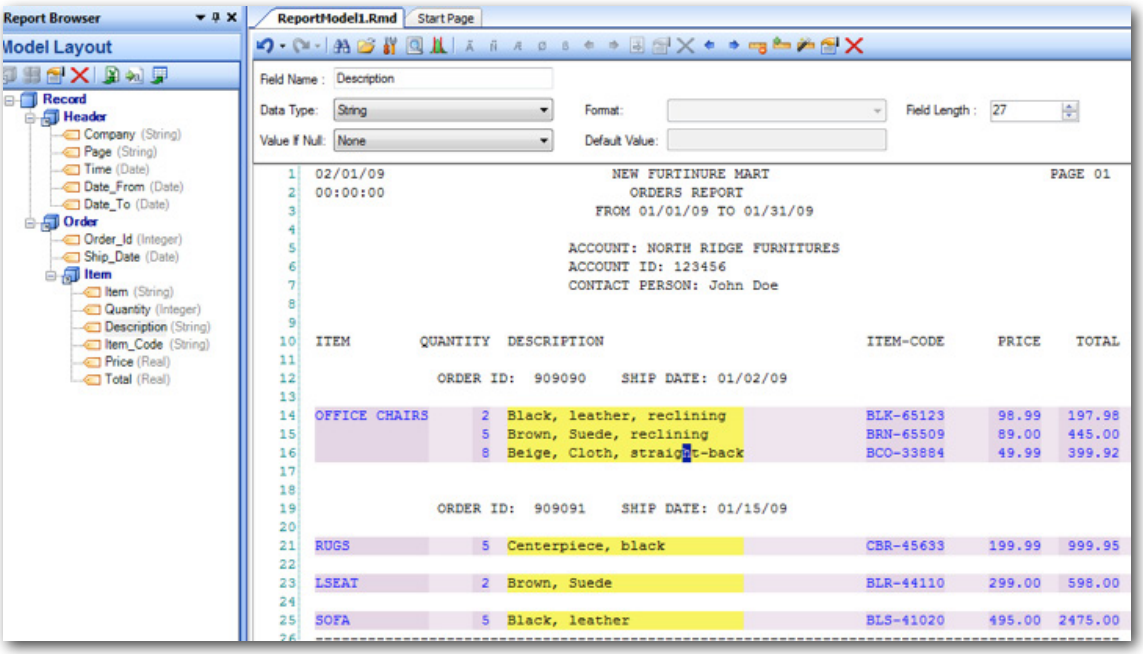


Figure 15

Saving and Testing a Report Model

Report definitions are used by ReportMiner to correctly parse, interpret, and assign data as it is fed from the report source. Report definitions are assigned an *.rmd extension.

Let's save our report model by clicking the Save icon on the main toolbar. Now we can test the model by previewing our data to see how it is parsed by ReportMiner.

To test the model and preview the extracted data, click the icon on the top toolbar.

This opens the Data Preview window, showing the entire report structure with the actual values for all the fields we have defined above (Figure 16).

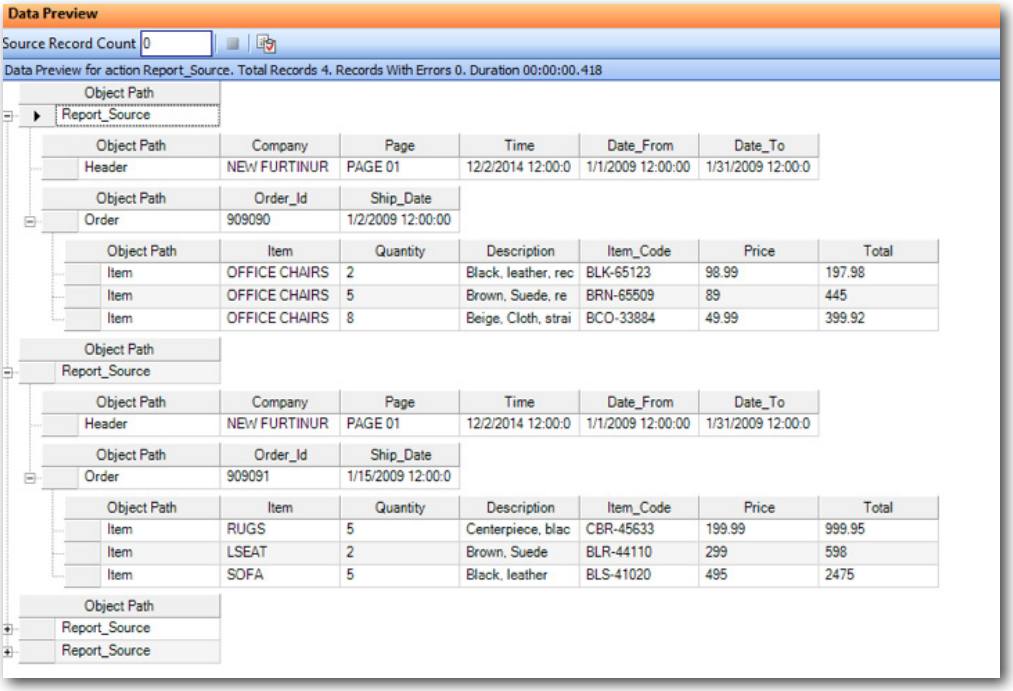

Data Preview
Source Record Count 0
Data Preview for action Report_Source. Total Records 4. Records With Errors 0. Duration 00:00:00.418
Object Path
Report_Source
Object Path | Company | Page | Time | Date_From | Date_To
Header | NEW FURTINUR | PAGE 01 | 12/2/2014 12:00:0 | 1/1/2009 12:00:00 | 1/31/2009 12:00:0
Object Path | Order_Id | Ship_Date
Order | 909090 | 1/2/2009 12:00:00
Object Path | Item | Quantity | Description | Item_Code | Price | Total
Item | OFFICE CHAIRS | 2 | Black, leather, rec | BLK-65123 | 98.99 | 197.98
Item | OFFICE CHAIRS | 5 | Brown, Suede, re | BRN-65509 | 89 | 445
Item | OFFICE CHAIRS | 8 | Beige, Cloth, strai | BCO-33884 | 49.99 | 399.92
Object Path
Report_Source
Object Path | Company | Page | Time | Date_From | Date_To
Header | NEW FURTINUR | PAGE 01 | 12/2/2014 12:00:0 | 1/1/2009 12:00:00 | 1/31/2009 12:00:0
Object Path | Order_Id | Ship_Date
Order | 909091 | 1/15/2009 12:00:0
Object Path | Item | Quantity | Description | Item_Code | Price | Total
Item | RUGS | 5 | Centerpiece, blac | CBR-45633 | 199.99 | 999.95
Item | LSEAT | 2 | Brown, Suede | BLR-44110 | 299 | 598
Item | SOFA | 5 | Black, leather | BLS-41020 | 495 | 2475
Object Path
Report_Source
Report_Source

Figure 16

Data Statistics and Summary

ReportMiner enables users to verify the summary of extracted data fields like sum, average, count, etc.

To view detailed statistics of extracted data, click on the button in the toolbar.
The Quick Profile window will open with detailed statistics of extracted data as shown in Figure 17.

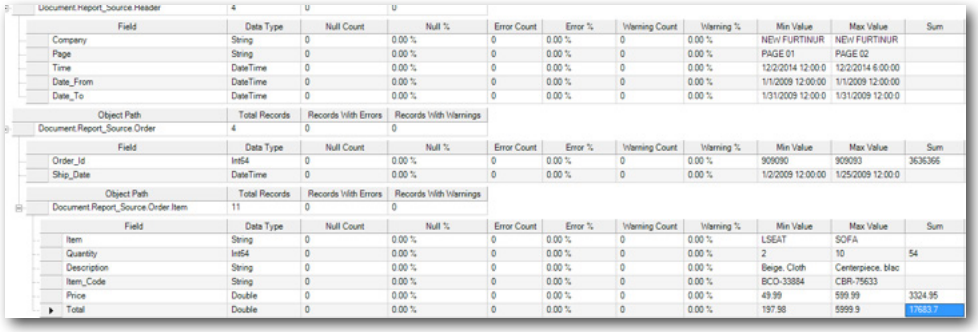

Document.Report_Source.Header
Field | Data Type | Null Count | Null % | Error Count | Error % | Warning Count | Warning % | Min Value | Max Value | Sum
Company | String | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | NEW FURTINUR | NEW FURTINUR
Page | String | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | PAGE 01 | PAGE 02
Time | DateTime | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 12/2/2014 12:00:0 | 12/2/2014 6:00:00
Date_From | DateTime | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 1/1/2009 12:00:00 | 1/1/2009 12:00:00
Date_To | DateTime | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 1/31/2009 12:00:0 | 1/31/2009 12:00:0
Object Path | Total Records | Records With Errors | Records With Warnings
Document.Report_Source.Order | 4 | 0 | 0
Field | Data Type | Null Count | Null % | Error Count | Error % | Warning Count | Warning % | Min Value | Max Value | Sum
Order_Id | Int64 | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 909090 | 909093 | 3636366
Ship_Date | DateTime | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 1/2/2009 12:00:00 | 1/25/2009 12:00:0
Object Path | Total Records | Records With Errors | Records With Warnings
Document.Report_Source.Order.Item | 11 | 0 | 0
Field | Data Type | Null Count | Null % | Error Count | Error % | Warning Count | Warning % | Min Value | Max Value | Sum
Item | String | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | LSEAT | SOFA
Quantity | Int64 | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 2 | 10 | 54
Description | String | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | Beige, Cloth | Centerpiece, blac
Item_Code | String | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | BCO-33884 | CBR-75633
Price | Double | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 49.99 | 599.99 | 3324.95
Total | Double | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 0 | 0.00 % | 197.98 | 5999.9 | 17683.7

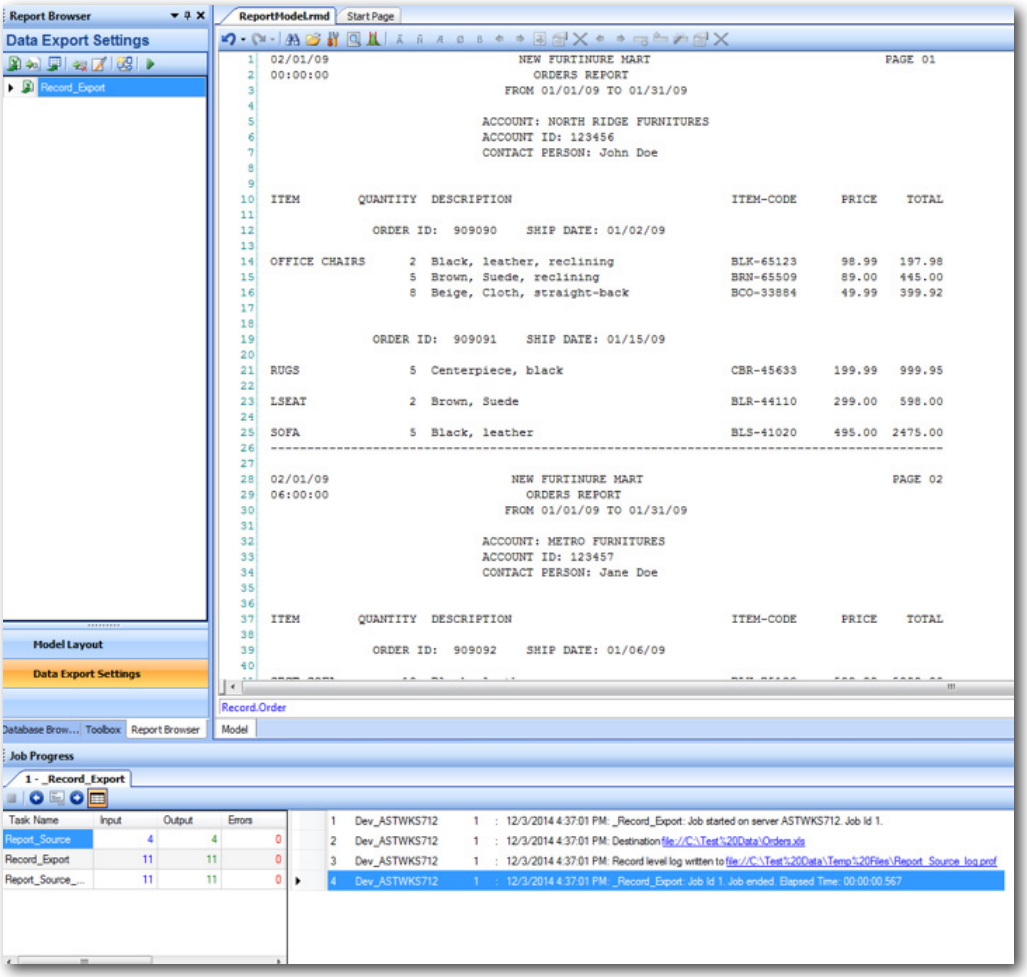
Figure 17

Exporting Data

ReportMiner exports data to any destination you choose. You can export data to Excel, delimited files, and fixed length files, or a to a database such as Microsoft SQL Server, Access, PostgreSQL, and MySQL.

For example, if you wish to export data to Excel, click on the button in the Model Layout toolbar. An export wizard will pop up and walk you through the steps to configure the export.

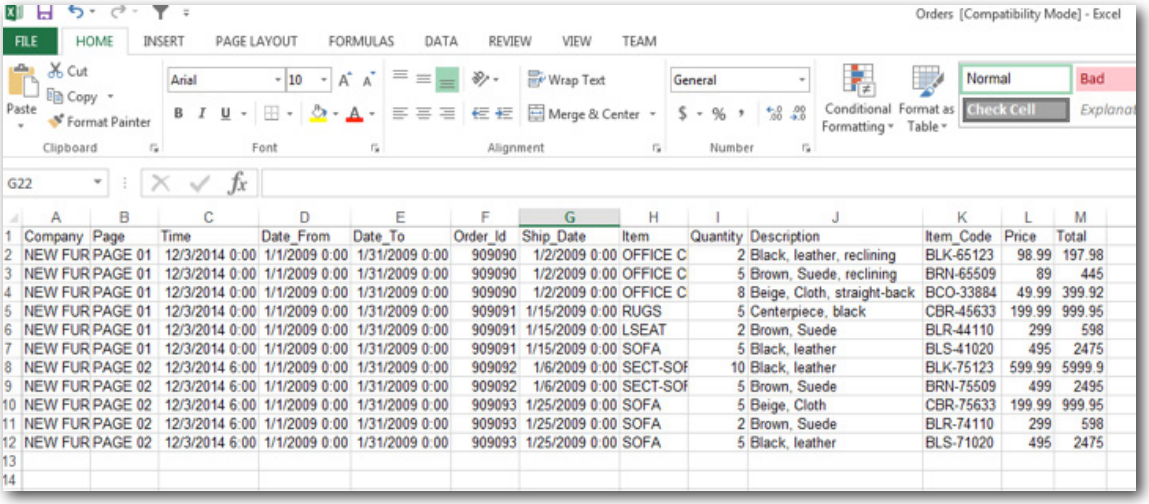
In the first screen, you will choose the output file location. Clicking on the next button will take you to the layout grid that shows all the fields to be exported, their sequence, header text, and the source field used to extract data from the source file. When you click on OK, the wizard screen will close and begin the extraction. You can see the progress in the progress window (Figure 18).


Report Browser
Data Export Settings
Record_Export
ReportModel.rmd
Start Page
02/01/09 NEW FURTINURE MART PAGE 01
00:00:00 ORDERS REPORT
FROM 01/01/09 TO 01/31/09
ACCOUNT: NORTH RIDGE FURNITURES
ACCOUNT ID: 123456
CONTACT PERSON: John Doe
ITEM QUANTITY DESCRIPTION ITEM-CODE PRICE TOTAL
ORDER ID: 909090 SHIP DATE: 01/02/09
OFFICE CHAIRS 2 Black, leather, reclining BLK-65123 98.99 197.98
5 Brown, Suede, reclining BRN-65509 89.00 445.00
8 Beige, Cloth, straight-back BCO-33884 49.99 399.92
ORDER ID: 909091 SHIP DATE: 01/15/09
RUGS 5 Centerpiece, black CBR-45633 199.99 999.95
LSEAT 2 Brown, Suede BLR-44110 299.00 598.00
SOFA 5 Black, leather BLS-41020 495.00 2475.00
02/01/09 NEW FURTINURE MART PAGE 02
06:00:00 ORDERS REPORT
FROM 01/01/09 TO 01/31/09
ACCOUNT: METRO FURNITURES
ACCOUNT ID: 123457
CONTACT PERSON: Jane Doe
ITEM QUANTITY DESCRIPTION ITEM-CODE PRICE TOTAL
ORDER ID: 909092 SHIP DATE: 01/06/09
Model Layout
Data Export Settings
Record.Order
Model
Database Brow... Toolbox Report Browser
Job Progress
1 - _Record_Export
Task Name Input Output Errors
Report_Source 4 4 0
Record_Export 11 11 0
Report_Source_... 11 11 0
1 Dev_ASTWKS712 1 : 12/3/2014 4:37:01 PM: _Record_Export: Job started on server ASTWKS712. Job Id 1.
2 Dev_ASTWKS712 1 : 12/3/2014 4:37:01 PM: Destination file://C:\Test%20Data\Orders.xls
3 Dev_ASTWKS712 1 : 12/3/2014 4:37:01 PM: Record level log written to file://C:\Test%20Data\Temp%20Files\Report_Source_log.prof
4 Dev_ASTWKS712 1 : 12/3/2014 4:37:01 PM: _Record_Export: Job Id 1. Job ended. Elapsed Time: 00:00:00.567
Figure 18

The Data Export Settings window is also highlighted and a reusable export setting is added to the list. You can manage your reusable export settings in this window. You can edit existing settings, remove them, or add a new one. You can trigger a fresh transfer from this window as well.

After the export has finished you can see the progress and a link to the destination file as well as the log file. If your transfer encountered any errors, you can click on the hyperlink for the log file and view the error log.

In this case, the transfer was successful and the output Excel file is shown in Figure 19.



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	Company	Page	Time	Date_From	Date_To	Order_Id	Ship_Date	Item	Quantity	Description	Item_Code	Price	Total
2	NEW FUR	PAGE 01	12/3/2014 0:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909090	1/2/2009 0:00	OFFICE C	2	Black, leather, reclining	BLK-65123	98.99	197.98
3	NEW FUR	PAGE 01	12/3/2014 0:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909090	1/2/2009 0:00	OFFICE C	5	Brown, Suede, reclining	BRN-65509	89	445
4	NEW FUR	PAGE 01	12/3/2014 0:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909090	1/2/2009 0:00	OFFICE C	8	Beige, Cloth, straight-back	BCO-33884	49.99	399.92
5	NEW FUR	PAGE 01	12/3/2014 0:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909091	1/15/2009 0:00	RUGS	5	Centerpiece, black	CBR-45633	199.99	999.95
6	NEW FUR	PAGE 01	12/3/2014 0:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909091	1/15/2009 0:00	LSEAT	2	Brown, Suede	BLR-44110	299	598
7	NEW FUR	PAGE 01	12/3/2014 0:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909091	1/15/2009 0:00	SOFA	5	Black, leather	BLS-41020	495	2475
8	NEW FUR	PAGE 02	12/3/2014 6:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909092	1/6/2009 0:00	SECT-SOF	10	Black, leather	BLK-75123	599.99	5999.9
9	NEW FUR	PAGE 02	12/3/2014 6:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909092	1/6/2009 0:00	SECT-SOF	5	Brown, Suede	BRN-75509	499	2495
10	NEW FUR	PAGE 02	12/3/2014 6:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909093	1/25/2009 0:00	SOFA	5	Beige, Cloth	CBR-75633	199.99	999.95
11	NEW FUR	PAGE 02	12/3/2014 6:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909093	1/25/2009 0:00	SOFA	2	Brown, Suede	BLR-74110	299	598
12	NEW FUR	PAGE 02	12/3/2014 6:00	1/1/2009 0:00	1/31/2009 0:00	909093	1/25/2009 0:00	SOFA	5	Black, leather	BLS-71020	495	2475
13													
14													

Figure 19

You can create transfer settings and export data to delimited files or databases using the and toolbar buttons respectively.

Let's now take a look at some additional functionality that ReportMiner offers to help you customize your extraction.

Selecting Fields and Regions

To select a field, left click on it in the Report Browser's tree. The field is highlighted in yellow in the Report Definition Editor. Some of the more common field properties are displayed in the top pane of the editor (Figure 20).

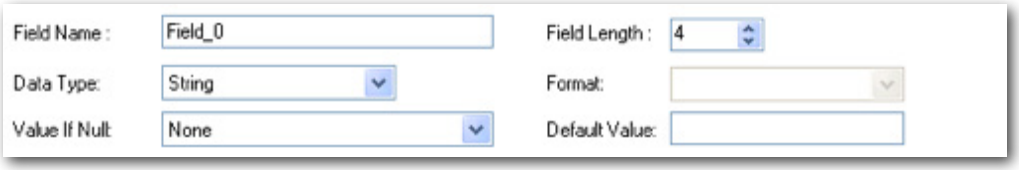


Figure 20

To select a region, click on it in the Report Browser's tree. The region is highlighted in light purple in the Report Definition Editor, and the fields in the selected region are also highlighted in darker purple. The top pane shows the properties that are applicable for the region.

Managing Field and Region Properties

To view and update all other properties of a field or a region, right click on a field (or region) inside the Report Browser, and select Edit Field (or Edit Region) from the context menu.

The same functionality is also available on the top toolbar, by pressing the icon.

You can also access field properties by right clicking the field in the Report Definition Editor and selecting *Field Properties* from the context menu.

Renaming Fields and Regions

To rename a field, double click it on the tree in the Report Browser and enter a new name.

To rename a region, double click it on the tree in the Report Browser and enter a new name.

You can also rename a field or a region by entering the new name in the Name input on the top pane.

Deleting Fields and Regions

To delete a field, right click it in the Report Browser or Report Definition Editor and select Delete Field.

To delete a region, right click on a region (or a field inside the region) and select *Delete Region* from the context menu. Note that this action will also delete any fields in that region.

Customizing Fields

After your field has been created, you can change its start position by moving it a number of characters to the left or to the right. Right click on a field and select *Move Field Marker Right One Character* or *Move Field Marker Left One Character* from the context menu. Repeat as needed to move the field the desired number of characters.

Note that the same functionality is also accessible from the top toolbar via the and icons accordingly.

You can also change the field length by selecting *Decrease Field Length By One Character* and *Increase Field Length By One Character* from the context menu. Repeat as many times as needed to change the field length by the desired number of characters.

Note that the same functionality is also accessible from the top toolbar via the and icons.

To auto determine field length based on the available sample data, right click a field and select *Auto Determine Field Length* from the context menu. Or click the icon on the top toolbar.

Alternatively, you can also move all fields within the same region left or right by a specified number of characters. To do this, right click on a region or field and select *Move All Field Markers Left One Character* or *Move All Field Markers Right One Character*. You can also use the and icons on the top toolbar.

Note: To undo any action in the editor, use the Undo dropdown menu on the toolbar or press CTRL + Z.

Identifying Text Patterns for Regions

The following options are available to help you create a text pattern that will identify the starting point of a field or region.

Match any alphabet

Match any digit

Match any alphabet or digit

Match any non-blank

Match any blank character

For example, to match the date 12/15/2011, you can use the pattern

where is “match any digit.”

Using Dataflows

ReportMiner enables users to build and run dataflows. A dataflow is a graphical representation for sources, destinations, transformations, and maps. Report models can be used as sources in dataflows in order to leverage the advanced transformation features in ReportMiner. Let’s add the report model to a dataflow so we can read the entire source report and feed it to a destination object.

Go to File -> New -> Dataflow. This creates a new dataflow.

Using the Toolbox pane, expand the Sources category, and select Report Source.
Drag and drop Report Source onto the Designer.

Double click the ReportModel1 object that we just added (or right click it and select Properties) to open the Properties dialog.

Using the Properties dialog, enter the path to the report source file and the report model. The report model location should point to the report model we created and saved earlier (Figure 21).

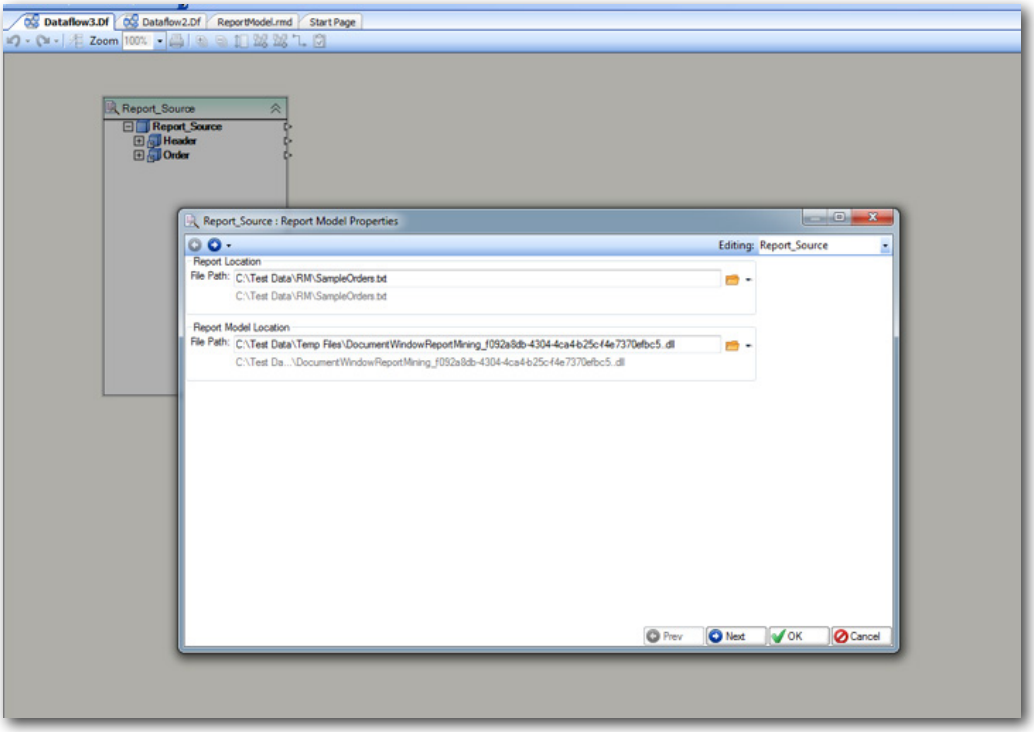


Figure 21

Click OK to close the dialog. The Report_Source object shows the report structure according to the report model we created (Figure 22).

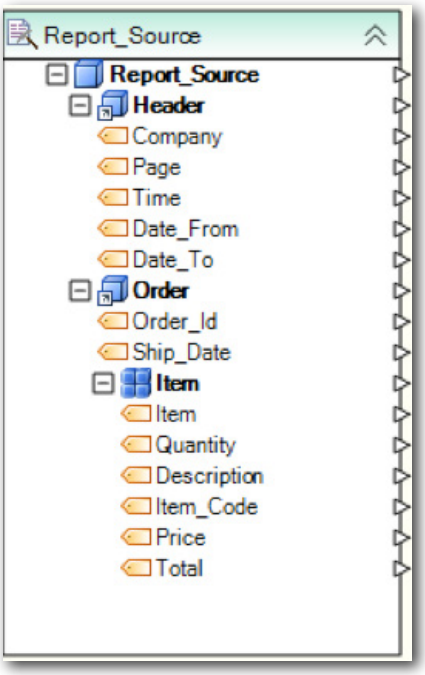


Figure 22

You may need to expand the tree nodes to see all the child nodes under the root node. Our new report source is ready to feed data to t he downstream objects in our dataflow.

Creating Dataflows from Export Settings

There is a way to create dataflows directly from the Export Setting Browser. Look for the button in the Export Settings Browser tool-bar. Select an existing export setting and click on this button. A new dataflow will be created and opened in a new window as shown in Figure 23. Please refer to the Astera Centerprise Data Integrator user manual to learn more about dataflows.

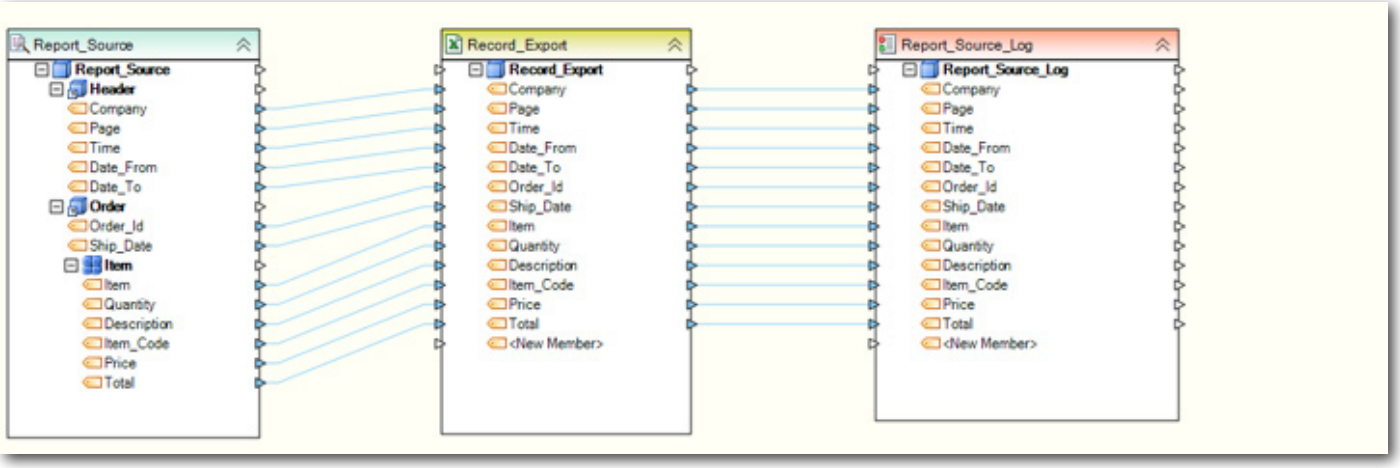


Figure 23

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